

REMARKS

Claims 13 and 19 have been amended. Claim 18 has been cancelled. New dependent claims 23 – 26 ultimately depending from claim 13 have been added. Claims 13 – 17 and 19 – 26 are currently pending in the application.

In the Office Action, claims 13-16 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chang US Patent No. 5,788,565. Also, in the Office Action, claims 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang US Patent No. 5,788,565 in view of Lin CN 1041271.

With regard to the rejection of claims 13-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and the rejection of claims 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendment of claim 13 and the following comments.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the opportunity to discuss the present application on May 18, 2007. In that discussion, Applicants discussed a proposed new claim reciting details of engagement between the plate-shaped region of the ventilator container and the side wall bent region.

Claim 13 of the present application as currently amended recites a housing for an extractor hood. The housing includes at least one ventilator container for containing therein a ventilator device operable to impart motion to steam and other gaseous fluid. Also, the housing serves as a housing for at least part of the ventilator container and the housing is operable for receiving and guiding steam and other gaseous fluid to the ventilator container. The ventilator container is arranged at least partly in the housing and one section of an external wall of the housing is formed by a portion of the ventilator container. The housing includes two side walls, at least one of the side walls has a bent region at its upper edge, and the bent region of the side wall forms a

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section of the top of the housing and the bent region of the side wall is in engagement with at least one region of the ventilator container via a form-locking connection.

Chang US Patent No. 5,788,565 discloses, in Figure 3 thereof, a funnel body 22 having a smoke exhausting device 21 mounted relative thereto such that the smoke exhausting device 21 forms a portion of an external wall [the top wall] of the funnel body 22.

Lin CN 1041271 discloses a hood (1) wherein a side wall of the hood housing (2) forms a section of the top of the hood housing (2).

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Chang US Patent No. 5,788,565 nor Lin CN 1041271 teach or suggest all of the elements recited by independent claim 13. For example, neither Chang US Patent No. 5,788,565 nor Lin CN 1041271 teach or suggest a housing includes two side walls, at least one of the side walls having a bent region at its upper edge, and the bent region of the side wall forming a section of the top of the housing and the bent region of the side wall being in engagement with at least one region of the ventilator container via a form-locking connection.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 13 – 17 and 19 – 26.

Respectfully submitted,



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